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Patent and Trademark Office

NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ISSUE FEE DUE

IM22/1204

WOOD, HERRON & EVANS, L.L.P.  
2700 CAREW TOWER  
441 VINE STREET  
ATTN: KEVIN G. ROONEY  
CINCINNATI OH 45202

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	TOTAL CLAIMS	EXAMINER AND GROUP ART UNIT	DATE MAILED
09/138,039	08/20/98	013	LEYSON, J	1722 12/04/00
First Named Applicant	ALLEN,	35 USC 154(b) term ext. =	0 Days.	

TITLE OF INVENTION SEGMENTED DIE FOR APPLYING HOT MELT ADHESIVES OR OTHER POLYMER MELTS

ATTY'S DOCKET NO.	CLASS-SUBCLASS	BATCH NO.	APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	FEE DUE	DATE DUE
3 35A	425-007.000	V88	UTILITY	YES	\$620.00	03/15/01

**THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.**

**THE ISSUE FEE MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.**

**HOW TO RESPOND TO THIS NOTICE:**

- I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.  
If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:
  - A. If the status is changed, pay twice the amount of the FEE DUE shown above and notify the Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or
  - B. If the status is the same, pay the FEE DUE shown above.
- If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:
  - A. Pay FEE DUE shown above, or
  - B. File verified statement of Small Entity Status before, or with, payment of 1/2 the FEE DUE shown above.
- II. Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned to the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) with your ISSUE FEE. Even if the ISSUE FEE has already been paid by charge to deposit account, Part B Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the ISSUE FEE to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B-Issue Fee Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.
- III. All communications regarding this application must give application number and batch number.  
Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Box ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.**

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HC

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
09/138,039	08/20/98	ALLEN	M 35A

IM22/1204

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EXAMINER

LEYSON, J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1722

11

DATE MAILED:

12/04/00

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

**Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks**

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# Notice of Allowability

Application No.  
09/138,039

Applicant(s)

Allen

Examiner  
Joseph Leyson

Group Art Unit  
1722



All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course.

☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on 9-7-2000.

☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-13.

☒ The drawings filed on 8-20-98 are acceptable.

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☐ All ☐ Some\* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

☐ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_

☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE to comply with the requirements noted below is set to EXPIRE **THREE MONTHS** FROM THE "DATE MAILED" of this Office action. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

☐ Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL APPLICATION, PTO-152, which discloses that the oath or declaration is deficient. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION IS REQUIRED.

☐ Applicant MUST submit NEW FORMAL DRAWINGS

☐ because the originally filed drawings were declared by applicant to be informal.

☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948, attached hereto or to Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.

☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_, which has been approved by the examiner.

☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment/Comment.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the reverse side of the drawings. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

☐ Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Any response to this letter should include, in the upper right hand corner, the APPLICATION NUMBER (SERIES CODE/SERIAL NUMBER). If applicant has received a Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due, the ISSUE BATCH NUMBER and DATE of the NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE should also be included.

## Attachment(s)

☐ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

☒ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment

☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

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1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Kevin Rooney on 12-1-2000.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 12 has been amended as follows:

12. A segmented die assembly comprising a plurality of separate air-assisted die units interconnected in side-by-side relationship, each die unit comprising:

B<sub>1</sub>  
a) a manifold segment having formed therein (i) [an] a process air flow passage, (ii) a polymer flow passage, and (iii) an instrument air flow passage, said process air flow passages and said polymer flow passages respectively being in fluid communication;

b) a die module having a die body detachably mounted on said manifold segment, and an air-assisted die tip or nozzle mounted on said die body, said die body having formed therein (i) [an] a process air flow passage, (ii) a polymer flow passage and (iii) an instrument air flow passage which, respectively, are in fluid communication with said process air flow passage, said

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B,  
Cont.  
polymer flow passage, and said instrument air flow passage of said manifold segment, said die body further having an air-actuated valve mounted therein for opening and closing said polymer flow passage thereof, which is in fluid communication with said instrument air flow passage thereof;

said die tip having (i) [an] a process air flow passage and (ii) a polymer flow passage which, respectively, are in fluid communication with said process air flow passage and said polymer flow passage of said die body; and

c) means for selectively delivering air to and from said instrument air flow passages of said manifold segment for actuating said air-actuated valve.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record does not teach or reasonably suggest an apparatus as recited by the instant claims, particularly the plurality of manifold segments, each manifold segment having formed therein the air flow passage and the polymer flow passage, the air passages and the polymer flow passages respectively being in fluid communication or interconnected, the plurality of die modules, each die module having the die body mounted on the manifold segment, and the die tip or nozzle mounted on each die body, each die body having formed therein the air flow passage and the polymer flow passage

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which, respectively, are in fluid communication with the air flow passage and the polymer flow passage of the manifold segment, and each die tip or nozzle having the polymer flow passage which is in fluid communication with the polymer flow passage of the die body.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Joseph Leyson whose telephone number is (703) 308-2647. The fax number for Technology Center 1700 is (703) 305-7718.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0661.

*jl*  
jl

December 1, 2000

*[Signature]*  
HAROLD PYON  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER 12/1/00  
1722